

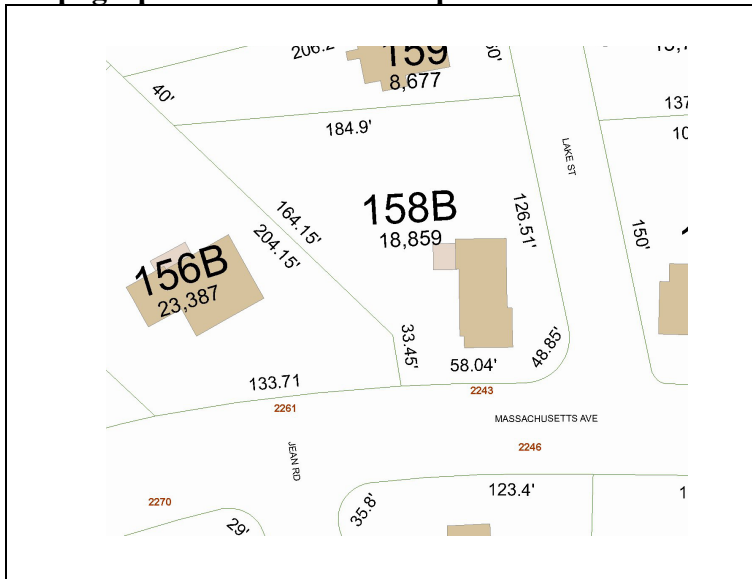
# FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

## Photograph



## Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: Lisa Mausolf

Organization: Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month / year): May 2008

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

50/158B

Boston  
North

1603

Town: Lexington

Place: (neighborhood or village)

Address: 2243 Massachusetts Avenue

Historic Name: McNamara House

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: c.1890

Source: maps, visual inspection

Style/Form: Vernacular Gablefront

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboards/wood

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:  
none

Major Alterations (with dates):

Date? – rear, modern addition

Condition: good

Moved: no | x | yes | | Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage: 0.44 acre

Setting: mixed residential neighborhood  
along busy road

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

LEXINGTON

2243 MASS. AVENUE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

1603

\_\_\_\_ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.  
*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

Located at the northwest corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Lake Street, 2243 Massachusetts Avenue is a 2 ½-story, clapboarded dwelling which is oriented with its two-bay wide gablefront to Mass. Ave. The simple vernacular structure has simple cornerboards and projecting eaves and the main (south) and east elevations are fronted by a single-story porch supported by plain posts resting on a mortared stone wall. There is a simple sidehall entry and the windows contain original 2/2 sash with shutters. Behind the original main house there is a contemporary addition of recent construction.

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The earliest known owner of this house is J. McNamara who is shown as the owner on the 1898 map. John McNamara is listed here in the 1899 directory. By 1906 Dennis McNamara Jr. was living here with his wife Katherine. Like his father before him, McNamara was a stone mason. The McNamaras were still in residence in 1910.

By 1920 the house (then 639 Mass. Ave.) was occupied by John Walsh, also a stone mason. In 1930 his widow Mary was living here with a stepdaughter and several boarders. Later owners included Frank & Mary Rycroft, Ralph & Ellen Hall, Royston & Lillian Daley and Clifford & Lillian Shaw. The present owners, Leon & Beverly Shank, have owned the property since 1989.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

1898, 1906 maps  
Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.  
Town Directories  
U.S. Census, various years.

